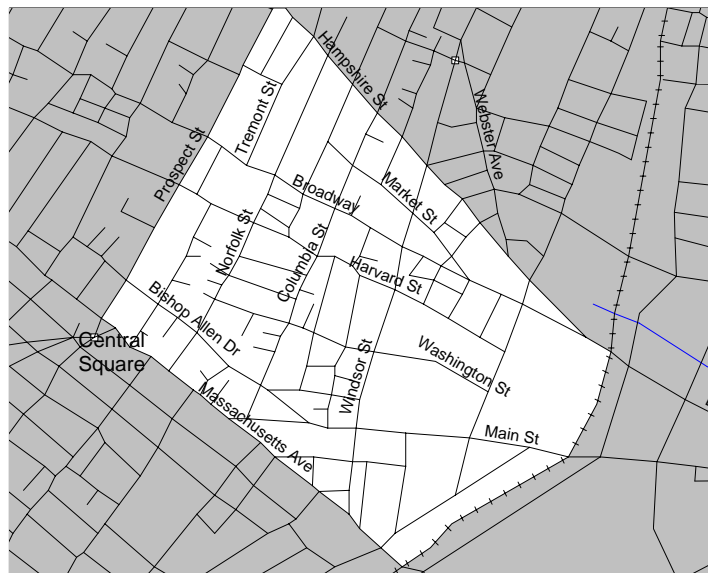
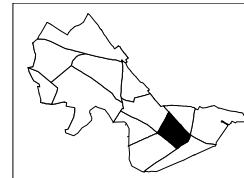


NEIGHBORHOOD 4

AREA 4



BOUNDARIES: the B&A Railroad, Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Hampshire Street

POPULATION: 7,263 residents
2,523 households

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:
\$24,665

Neighborhood #4 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers), and Car 4R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 4A, 4B, and 4C, and Central 10.

COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	48	51	67	49	41
Street Robbery	38	36	25	30	31
Auto Theft	64	95	74	64	57
Larceny from MVs	71	132	104	86	50
Malicious Destruction	100	129	122	99	105
Drug Arrests	74	36	27	23	26

2003 YEAR END REVIEW

Street robberies increased by only one incident from 2002, but have slightly decreased over the past five years. These incidents were highest during the second and fourth quarter of 2003. There was no pattern to the incidents at the end of the year, but during April there were several related incidents which concentrated between 8PM and 10PM on various nights. Incidents here were second highest in the city, reflecting an historical trend. On many occasions the robberies were perpetrated by two males, one of which would sometimes display a gun or knife. See *Robbery* section for closer look at hotspots, including the intersections between Bishop Allen Drive and Washington Street.. • There was a minimal decrease in **housebreaks** in 2003 from the previous year, as these incidents have continued to slowly decline over the past decade. Over one fifth of the reported incidents were committed by suspects known to the victims. The second quarter ranked highest for incidents, which typically took place from Tuesdays through Thursdays, between 12PM and 4PM. Areas of repeat locations included: 100 block of Harvard, 100 to 200 blocks of Windsor and the 200 block of Columbia Streets. • Area 4 was among the top three neighborhoods for **auto thefts**, but these incidents have declined significantly from years past. During the summer, Wednesdays and Saturdays were the top days for thefts. • While auto thefts had repeat incidents on Main and Market Streets, **larcenies from motor vehicles** had repeat incidents on the 200 blocks of Harvard and Norfolk Streets and on Elm Street. The majority of incidents involved forced entry by broken window, which were the nature of most of the Norfolk and Harvard Street incidents. Incidents were lowest in the first quarter, and Wednesdays and Saturdays were the most popular days with evening and predawn breaks respectively. • There was one significant trend of **malicious destruction of property** in Area 4 this past year and that was two rashes of tire slashings. The first was in April on Elm Street and

the second in July on Columbia Street. • Half of the **drug arrests** were made by the Special Investigations Unit. Marijuana and crack cocaine arrests made up the majority of all recorded incidents in Area 4.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR AREA 4 TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank '81-'90*	1991-2002	Rank '91-'02*	Rank 2003*
Housebreaks	101	5	59	4	6
Street Robbery	75	1	47	1	2
Auto Theft	147	3	77	3	2
Larceny from MVs	134	2	80	4	6
Malicious Destruction	131	3	109	4	4

*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Area 4 has a less than average residential population (among Cambridge neighborhoods), coupled with a series of commercial establishments lining Massachusetts Avenue. Multi-family homes, as well as large apartment buildings, and 2 public housing developments (Newtowne Court and Washington Elms) distinguish this neighborhood from all others.

- As the numbers denote, Area 4 has earned the top rank among all 13 neighborhoods for street robbery over the past 20 years.
- In recent years, community crime watches, the Cambridge Housing Authority, and thorough policing by the Cambridge Police Special Investigations Unit have succeeded in preventing many potential drug incidents in the neighborhood's residential areas.
- Area 4 **housebreaks** have increasingly rated higher than average, moving from the fifth to the third highest rank among Cambridge neighborhoods over the past 20 years. Area 4 is often a prime target, due to its high population density in residential areas. In both Mid-Cambridge and Area 4, the Crime Analysis Unit identifies several discernable housebreak patterns that emerge throughout each year.

